

beyond the U.S. labor market. Employees, researchers and professors possessing both innovative technical skills and multicultural competence ensures our economic viability in world markets.

Additionally, placing a cap on the number of refugees admitted to the United States ignores our leadership role in providing protection and safe harbor to those fleeing political and religious persecution. Strict levels of refugee admissions ignore the changing and urgent nature of refugee situations. U.S. policy should maintain the flexibility to respond appropriately to emergency situations.

I also have serious reservations about a national employment verification system which would tend to subject individuals to invasions of privacy and discrimination. Such a system would serve as an enormous administrative burden to the Nation's employers, especially small businesses. And even if such a system could be maintained with an error rate of only 1 percent—an impossibility since it would be based on INS and SSA data which have error rates of at least 30 percent—hundreds of thousands of Americans would be denied employment opportunities annually because, according to an error in the data base, they were not eligible to work. Therefore, I support the Chabot-Conyers amendment, which would strike the employment verification system from the bill.

Finally, H.R. 2202 would restrict immigrants' access to all Federal means-tested programs. This means that programs like child care, immunizations, the Head Start Program, battered spouse shelters, and Maternal and Child Health Care Programs will be out of reach for needy women and children. Compromising the health and education of women and children hurts all Americans. Children must not be made to suffer from the actions of their parents. Furthermore, it is not in our national interest to have a population of malnourished, nonimmunized, and uneducated children.

H.R. 2202 also proposes to reimburse hospitals that provide emergency services to undocumented immigrants only if the hospital turns in the names of the undocumented people it serves. If this proposal becomes law people will fear seeking emergency care. By discouraging sick and critically ill people from seeking help, this provision jeopardizes not only the health of those who are ill, but also risks the well-being of their families and their communities. In addition, the measure will force doctors, nurses, and hospital administrators to spend valuable time and resources being law enforcers and learning to interpret immigration documents and understand the minutia of immigration law.

In short, there are no easy solutions for the deep-seated problems facing our Nation. Scapegoating, however, is not the answer. The issue has never been should we deal with immigration but how. Although H.R. 2202 comes clothed in good intentions, I am afraid the legislation does not capture fully the Commission's work and effectively bring about a long, lasting solution.

Immigrants are not the cause of the widening gap between rich and poor, the deterioration of our public schools or the violence in our streets. Indeed, the causes of these problems are much more fundamental and it is time they were addressed. We as Americans, can handle them without resorting to left wing or right wing rhetoric. This is what the Amer-

ican people demand and it is what they deserve.

LEGISLATION TO REVISE ELIGIBILITY FOR VA MEDICAL CARE

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today by request legislation which would very substantially revise provisions of law governing eligibility for VA health care services. This measure would require VA to provide any core veteran—that is, any veteran to whom VA now has an obligation to furnish hospital care—whatever care or services are clinically needed.

This measure would also provide VA new funding streams to support the improved service delivery promised by this legislation.

Most of the major veterans organizations strongly support this legislation and have urged its introduction.

ARMS TRANSFERS TO PAKISTAN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, the Government of Pakistan continues to assure our Government that it is a staunch ally of the United States. Last year, Pakistan illegally purchased M-11 missiles and 5,000 ring magnets from China. The M-11 missiles are capable of delivering a nuclear warhead and the ring magnets are used to enrich uranium, a key component for making nuclear bombs. Both transfers violate several U.S. nuclear non-proliferation laws.

The latest destabilizing act by Pakistan appears to have occurred earlier this month when authorities in Taiwan seized the cargo of a ship loaded with 34.8 tons of chemicals traveling from North Korea to Pakistan. According to an article appearing in the March 10 edition of the United Daily News, a leading newspaper in Taiwan, the materials "could be used for massively destructive purposes." The cargo, which Taiwanese authorities are holding, is being treated as top secret.

The actions of Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto are deeply troubling. Last year, Mrs. Bhutto travelled to North Korea. In addition, last year, Pakistan illegally purchased M-11 missiles from the People's Republic of China [PRC]. Earlier this year, news reports disclosed that Pakistan had 5,000 ring magnets from the PRC.

Mr. Speaker, the administration is currently considering transferring \$368 million worth of seized military hardware to Pakistan. The Congress granted that authority to the administration last year before it was aware of the seized cargo, the ring magnets, or the M-11 missiles. In light of these developments, it is imperative that the administration not proceed with the transfer. Tensions in South Asia are already very high. The United States needs to step back and reassess its position regarding Pakistan rather than continue on its present course.

HAPPY RETIREMENT TO JIM CAMPBELL

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a good friend on the occasion of his retirement. James E. "Jim" Campbell has spent the last 50 years of his life working for the cause of rural electrification. He has spent the last 13 years as manager of the Clay Electric Cooperative in Flora, IL, and will retire at the end of this month. I would like to thank Jim for his contributions to the quality of life in southern Illinois and wish him health and happiness for many years to come.

The work that Jim has dedicated his professional life to is especially meaningful to me, because for the last 8 years I have also worked hard to improve the infrastructure for the citizens in my congressional districts. Improving electrical service to rural areas is an important part of this process. I vividly remember when my family had our house in White County wired for electricity and the changes that brought to our lives. Jim has worked tirelessly to improve the living conditions and quality of service for consumers of electricity. His career has taken him from Kentucky to Colorado, and he has shared his expertise with professionals in Uruguay, Turkey, the Philippines, Nigeria, and Bangladesh. Jim has also served on numerous boards and associations, including the board of directors of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association [NRECA] Management Committee and their Parity of Rates Committee.

Mr. Speaker, what makes Jim's accomplishments all the more remarkable is he has also been a devoted family man. He and his wife Patty have been married 49 years and have raised three children and have five grandchildren. Jim will be able to turn even more attention to this facet of his life, including his yardwork and woodworking. It has been an honor to represent Jim in the U.S. Congress, and I wish him Godspeed.

HONORING CATHEDRAL HIGH SCHOOL BOYS HOCKEY DIVISION 2 STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate the Cathedral High School Boys Hockey Team for their record setting year which earned them the 1996 Massachusetts Division 2 State Hockey Championship.

For many years, hockey teams from western Massachusetts have not fared well against their eastern counterparts. Hampered by the lack of hockey rinks and the stiff competition that exists in Eastern Massachusetts, hockey teams from western Massachusetts have struggled. In the midst of period, Edgar Alejandro, the Cathedral hockey coach and a former standout hockey player at American International College, decided to challenge the